In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A method of treating a subterranean formation penetrated by a well, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) forming a treatment fluid comprising:

1) water having a magnesium ion concentration of less than 1mM and a calcium ion concentration of less than 2.5 mM;

2) a water-soluble polysaccharide capable of increasing the viscosity of the water and present in a sufficient concentration to increase the viscosity of the water; and

3) a breaker comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of a source of chlorite ions and a source of hypochlorite ions, wherein the breaker is present in a sufficient concentration to break the viscosity of the treatment fluid after introduction of the fluid into the subterranean formation;

(b) at any stage of forming the treatment fluid, adding a breaker moderator comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of a source of magnesium ions and a source of calcium ions to provide a sufficient concentration of the breaker moderator to ~~control~~ reduce the break rate of the fluid compared to the treatment fluid without the addition of the breaker moderator; and

(c) introducing the treatment fluid into the well and into contact with the formation.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims 1 or 2~~ Claim 1, wherein the formation has a static temperature of 200°F and above.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the formation has a static temperature of up to 350°F.

5. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims 1 or 2~~ Claim 1, wherein the step of introducing the treatment fluid into the well and into contact with the formation is at a rate and pressure sufficient to fracture the formation.

6. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims~~ Claim 4, wherein the step of introducing the treatment fluid into the well and into contact with the formation is at a rate and pressure sufficient to fracture the formation.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the treatment fluid further comprises a proppant.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the treatment fluid is adapted to break within 1 to 24 hours after being introduced into the well and into contact with the formation.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the polysaccharide comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of galactomannans, modified or derivatized galactomannans, and cellulose derivatives.

10. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims~~ Claim 4, wherein the polysaccharide comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of guar, hydroxypropylguar, carboxymethylhydroxypropylguar, carboxymethylhydroxyethylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, and hydroxyethylcellulose grafted with vinylphosphonic acid.

11. (Amended) The method of Claim ~~2~~ 1, further comprising a crosslinking agent, wherein the crosslinking agent comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of borate-releasing compounds, a source of titanium ions, a source of zirconium ions, a source of antimony ions, and a source of aluminum ions.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the borate releasing compound comprises ulexite.

13. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims 1 or 2~~ Claim 1, wherein the breaker comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorites.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the breaker comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of alkali metal chlorites.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the breaker comprises sodium chlorite.

16. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims 1 or 2~~ Claim 1, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a source of magnesium ions.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a source of magnesium ions.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a source of magnesium ions.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of magnesium chloride, magnesium acetate, and magnesium sulfate.

20. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims 1 or 2~~ Claim 1, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of: calcium chloride, calcium acetate, and calcium nitrate.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of: calcium chloride, calcium acetate, and calcium nitrate.

22. (Amended) The method of ~~Claims 1 or 2~~ Claim 1, wherein the fluid further comprises a pH adjusting agent present in a sufficient concentration to adjust the pH of the

fluid to be at least 10.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the fluid further comprises a pH adjusting agent present in a sufficient concentration to adjust the pH of the fluid to be at least 10.

Claims 24-45 (Canceled).

46. (Amended) A method of treating a subterranean formation penetrated by a well, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) forming a treatment fluid comprising:

1) water having a magnesium ion concentration of less than 1mM and a calcium ion concentration of less than 2.5 mM;

2) a water-soluble polysaccharide capable of increasing the viscosity of the water and present in a sufficient concentration to increase the viscosity of the water; ~~and~~

3) a breaker comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of a source of chlorite ions and a source of hypochlorite ions, wherein the breaker is present in a sufficient concentration to break the viscosity of the treatment fluid after introduction of the fluid into the subterranean formation;

(b) at any stage of forming the treatment fluid, adding at least one member selected from the group consisting of a source of magnesium ions and a source of calcium ions to provide ~~at total ionic concentration of at least about 15 mg/L~~ a magnesium ion concentration of at least 1mM or a calcium ion concentration of at least 2.5 mM or both; and

(c) introducing the treatment fluid into the well and into contact with the formation.

47. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the fluid comprises a pH adjusting agent present in a sufficient concentration to adjust the pH of the fluid to be at least 10.

48. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the fluid comprises a pH adjusting agent present in a sufficient concentration to adjust the pH of the fluid to be at least 11.

49. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein the fluid further comprises thiosulfate.

50. (New) The method of Claim 49, wherein the formation has a static temperature of at least 200°F.

51. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the fluid further comprises thiosulfate.

52. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the step of introducing the treatment fluid into the well and into contact with the formation is at a rate and pressure sufficient to fracture the formation.

53. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of magnesium chloride, magnesium acetate, and magnesium sulfate.

54. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the breaker moderator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of: calcium chloride, calcium acetate, and calcium nitrate.

55. (New) The method of Claim 46, wherein the fluid further comprises a crosslinking agent.

56. (New) The method of Claim 55, wherein the crosslinking agent is a borate crosslinking agent.

57. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the fluid comprises a pH adjusting agent present in a sufficient concentration to adjust the pH of the fluid to be at least 11.

58. (New) The method of Claim 55, wherein the fluid further comprises thiosulfate.

59. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the formation has a static temperature of at least 200°F.

60. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the fluid further comprises thiosulfate.